What is claimed is:

1. A seat assembly adapted for pivotal movement between a seating position secured to a floor of a motor vehicle and a stowed position recessed with the floor of the vehicle, said seat assembly comprising:

a seat cushion;

a pair of front legs each having a first end pivotally attached to said seat cushion and a second end adapted to be removably attached to a striker assembly in a floor of the vehicle;

a pair of rear legs each having a first end attached to said seat cushion and a second end adapted to be pivotally attached to the floor; and

a linkage assembly coupled between said front legs and said rear legs for selectively controlling movement of said front legs between a support position extending from said seat cushion for attachment to the striker assembly and a retracted position lying against said seat cushion, said linkage assembly including a first link member operatively coupled to said rear leg for controlling movement of said linkage assembly, a second link member extending between a first end operatively coupled to said first link member and an opposite second end, a third link member having a first end operatively connected to said front leg and a second end operatively coupled to said second end of said second link member, and a lost motion connection between said second and third link members for automatically allowing said front legs to be retracted from said support position to said retracted position in response to pivotal movement of the seat cushion from said seating position to said stowed position.

2. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said lost motion connection includes an elongated slot formed in one of said second and third link member for receiving and guiding at least one guide pin projecting from the other one of said second and third link

member for allowing said third link member to move relative to said second link member to automatically retract said front legs from said support position to said retracted position.

3. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein said lost motion connection includes a tension spring coupled between said second link member and said third link member for continuously biasing said front legs toward said retracted position.

4. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 3 wherein said linkage assembly includes a bell crank rotatably coupled between said rear legs and said seat cushion for coupling and operatively controlling said first and second link members.

5. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 4 wherein said bell crank includes a cylindrical body having a bore therethrough for receiving a pivot rod to rotatably couple said rear legs and said seat cushion.

6. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 5 wherein said bell crank includes first and second spaced apart crank arms extending radially from said cylindrical body.

7. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 6 further including a pivot bracket for pivotally supporting said rear legs and adapted to fixedly secure said seat assembly to the floor of the vehicle.

8. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 7 wherein said first link member extends between a first end pivotally coupled to said first crank arm and a second end pivotally

coupled to said pivot bracket for rotating said bell crank about said pivot rod upon rotation of said seat assembly between said support position and said stowed position.

9. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 8 wherein said first end of said second link member is pivotally coupled to said second crank arm for controlling sliding movement of said guide pin along said elongated slot of said lost motion connection in response to rotation of said bell crank by said first link member.

10. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 9 wherein said rear legs include a stop pin for engaging with upper and lower recesses formed in said pivot bracket for positioning and supporting said rear legs against said pivot bracket in each of said support and stowed positions.

11. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 10 including a coil spring coupled about said pivot rod between said seat cushion and said rear legs for biasing said seat assembly toward said seating position.

12. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 11 further including a fourth link member pivotally coupled to said front legs and said seat cushion by a pivot rod and operatively coupled to said first end of said third link for controlling said pivotal movement of said front legs between said support position and said stowed position.

13. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 12 wherein said fourth link member includes a planar body having a bore for receiving said pivot rod therethrough and angularly spaced first and second arms extending radially from said body.

14. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 13 wherein said front legs include a stop pin projecting therefrom and seated between said first and second arms of said fourth link member for engagement therewith to control said pivotal movement of said front legs between said support and retracted positions.

15. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 14 wherein said first end of said third link member is pivotally coupled to said first arm of said fourth link member to rotate said fourth link into engagement with said stop pin and control said pivotal movement of said front legs.

16. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 15 wherein said first end of said third link member includes an elongated slot for receiving a guide pin therethrough to slidably connect said third link member to said first arm of said fourth link member and provide alignment of said front legs with the striker assembly.

17. The seat assembly as set forth in claim 16 further including a torsion spring coupled between said seat cushion and said front legs for biasing said front legs toward said support position.